



CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

AGENDA DATE: September 14, 2010

TO: Mayor and Councilmembers

FROM: Water Resources Division, Public Works Department

SUBJECT: Approval Of Consulting Services Contract For Wastewater Collection Field Crews Technical Training

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council authorize the Public Works Director to execute a professional services contract, subject to approval as to form by the City Attorney, with Tilson & Associates, LLC (Tilson), in an amount not to exceed \$51,070 for on-site consulting and training services for the Water Resources Division, Wastewater Collection Section.

DISCUSSION:

The City's wastewater collection system staff maintain approximately 277 miles of sanitary sewer lines. Primary objectives for the collection system staff include timely cleaning and repair of the collection system to prevent sanitary sewer overflows (spills). Important to this effort is the effective and timely cleaning of pipes, and development of accurate records.

The proposed consulting services will provide Wastewater Collection Section field crews with updated field operations training and with new documentation development for both standard and emergency operation procedures. Field training will assess existing cleaning practices used by field personnel and provide updated procedures that ensure higher efficiency, effectiveness, and data collection accuracy. New standard operating procedure documentation will codify best practices taught to crews for cleaning sewer mains, cleaning tool selection, data collection and inventory management.

Tilson has provided similar services to many public sewer collection agencies and has a positive success record in providing technical training to public agency sewer collection field employees for improved system performance. Contract services will be provided over an eighteen-month time period.

Staff has negotiated an acceptable proposal with Tilson to perform these professional services and has used, as an example, the terms of a similar contract between Tilson

and the City of San Diego. Tilson has agreed to charge the City of Santa Barbara consulting rates that are lower than the rates it charged to the City of San Diego for similar consulting work.

BUDGET/FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

There are sufficient appropriated funds in the Wastewater Operating Fund to cover the cost of these onsite consulting services.

PREPARED BY: Christopher Toth, Wastewater System Manager/mh

SUBMITTED BY: Christine F. Andersen, Public Works Director

APPROVED BY: City Administrator's Office